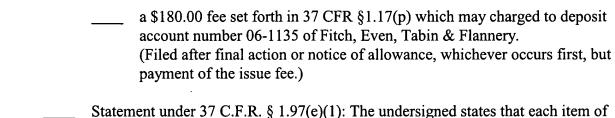


## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH			
Applicant(s	s): l	Heinz Willebrand et al.	CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
Application	n No.:	10/840,172	I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service
Filed:	1	May 5, 2004	with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE,
AN	D RADIO F MMUNICA	ELESS OPTICAL FREQUENCY TION LINK 2638	Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.  11/8/05 Date Sara R. Hart
Examiner:	1	Phan, Hanh	
Mail Stop I		MENTAL INFORMATION	DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
Commissio P.O. Box 1	ner for Pate		
Dear Sir:			
This	s Informatio	n Disclosure Statement is sub	mitted:
<u>X</u>		7 CFR §1.97(b) before the ma	iling date of a first Office Action on the er §1.114.
	a r (	number 06-1135 of Fitch, Even after the 37 CFR §1.97(b) tim	97(e), or which may charged to deposit account
		7 CFR §1.97(d) together with	



Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1): The undersigned states that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

In accordance with the duty of disclosure imposed by 37 CFR § 1.56 to inform the Patent Office of all patents, publications, applications and other information known by Applicants or Applicants' representative that may be material to the examination of the subject application, Applicants' representative hereby provides this Information Disclosure Statement that is prepared in accordance with 37 CFR §§ 1.97-1.98 and includes Form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B with fifty-six (56) references listed as items AA-CE.

Copies of the U.S. patents and U.S. Patent Publications listed on the enclosed form PTO/SB/08A are not enclosed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(ii) which does not require submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications.

Copies of the remaining items listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08B are enclosed.

## Concise Explanation of Relevance

Item BZ is a copy of a Chinese First Office Action that was issued in Chinese patent application no. 00819317.7, which relates and corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 6,763,195, which is the parent application hereto. The Chinese First Office Action refers to item ED of the IDS mailed to the USPTO on May 5, 2004. An English-language translation of portions of the Chinese First Office Action is included herewith.

Item CA is a copy of an Australian Examiner's Second Report that was issued in Australian patent application no. 2001252868, which relates and corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 6,763,195, which is the parent application hereto. The Australian Examiner's Second Report refers to item ED of the IDS mailed to the USPTO on May 5, 2004.

Item CB is a copy of a "European Search Report" that was issued in European divisional patent application no. 03019647.1-2415, which relates and corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 6,763,195, which is the parent application hereto, and U.S. Application No. 10/646,994. A copy

Supplemental IDS U.S. Appln. No. 10/840,172

of the "European Search Report" mailed November 4, 2004, is included herewith. A copy of the searched claims is also included.

Item CD is a copy of an Indian First Examination Report that was issued in Indian patent application no. IN/PCT/2002/01247/CHE, which relates and corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 6,763,195, which is the parent application hereto. The Indian First Examination Report refers to item AR and the remaining item has already been made of record and is listed as item BU of the IDS mailed to the USPTO on May 5, 2004.

Item CE is a copy of a Chinese "Notice on Grant of Patent Right for Invention", that was issued in Chinese patent application no. 00819317.7, which relates and corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 6,763,195, which is the parent application hereto. The Chinese "Notice on Grant of Patent Right for Invention" which is dated July 22, 2005, is not in the English language. An English-language translation of portions of the Chinese "Notice on Grant of Patent Right for Invention" is included herewith.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 06-1135 of Fitch, Even, Tabin & Flannery, Customer No. 22242.

It is requested that the information provided herein be made of record in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard E. Wawrzyniak

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. 36,048

Address all Correspondence to:

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY 120 So. LaSalle Street **Suite 1600** 

Chicago, IL 60603

Telephone: (858) 552-1311 Facsimile: (858) 552-0095

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

of

Complete if Known

Application Number 10/840,172

Filing Date May 5, 2004

First Named Inventor Heinz Willebrand et al.

Art Unit 2638

Examiner Name Phan, Hanh

Attorney Docket Number 81699 (7293)

			U. S. PATENT	DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2 (I' known)</sup>	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	ĀĀ	<sup>US-</sup> 6,529,556	03-04-2003	Perdue et al.	
	AB	<sup>US-</sup> 5,896,211	04-20-1999	Watanabe	
	AC	<sup>US-</sup> 6,009,115	12-28-1999	Но	
	AD	<sup>US-</sup> 5,347,525	09-13-1994	Faris	
	AE	<sup>US-</sup> 2001/0053011 A1	12-20-2001	Imajo	
	AF	<sup>US-</sup> 5,600,471	02-04-1997	Hirohashi et al.	
	AG	<sup>US-</sup> 6,788,666 B1	09-07-2004	Linebarger et al.	
_	АН	<sup>US-</sup> 5,978,117	11-02-1999	Koonen	
	Al	<sup>US-</sup> 5,880,865	03-09-1999	Lu et al.	
	AJ	<sup>US-</sup> 5,457,561	10-10-1995	Taneya et al.	
	AK	<sup>US-</sup> 5,016,242	05-14-1991	Tang	
	AL	<sup>US-</sup> 4,726,011	02-16-1988	Ih et al.	
	AM	<sup>US-</sup> 6,583,908	06-24-2003	Nakamura	
	AN	<sup>US-</sup> 5,999,295	12-07-1999	Vowell	
	AO	us- 2002/0097468	07-25-2002	Mecherle et al.	
	AP	<sup>US-</sup> 6,509,991	01-21-2003	Shibuya	
	AQ	<sup>US-</sup> 4,599,745	07-08-1986	Baran et al.	
		ŪS-			
		US-			

	No.1					
Examiner Initials*		Foreign Patent Document	Date		Where Relevant Passages	T-6
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	IMM-DD-1111		Or Relevant Figures Appear	
	AR	EP 0 835 035 A1	04-08-1998	Alcatel Alsthom		
	AS	EP 0 876 020 A1	11-04-1998	Alcatel Alsthom		
	AT	EP 0 887 965 A1	12-30-1998	Alcatel Alsthom		
	AU	EP 0 993 124 A2	04-12-2000	Matsushita Electric Industrial		
	AV	JP 2000-147306	05-26-2000	Kokusai Electric		~
	AW	JP 2000-315983	11-14-2000	Hirohashi		V

Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	1 <b>[</b>
- <b>J</b>		

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

81699 (7293)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449/PTO Application Number 10/840,172 Filing Date May 5, 2004 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE First Named Inventor Heinz Willebrand et al. STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Art Unit 2638 (Use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name** Phan, Hanh

Sheet

Attorney Docket Number

			U. S. PATENT D		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2 (f known)</sup>	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	<del>  -</del>	US-	+		
	l				
		US-			-
		US-			<u> </u>
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		US-			
		US-			
		US-		<del></del>	
-		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
-		US-			
		US-	<del> </del>		

		FOREIG	N PATENT DOCL	JMENTS		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages	
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> "Number <sup>4</sup> "Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
	AX	JP 2001-103545	04-13-2001	Sato		V
	AY	WO 00/29886	05-25-2000	California Institute of Technology		
	AZ	WO 01/26263 A2	04-12-2001	Kestrel Solutions, Inc.		
	BA	WO 01/86982 A1	11-15-2001	NTT Docomo, Inc		
	BB	WO 01/35551 A1	05-17-2001	Buddatec Co., Ltd.		
	BC	EP 1 250 018 A1	10-16-2002	NTT Docomo, Inc		

Examiner	Date	 
Signature	Considered	
	 !	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. Senter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND** TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitut	te for form 1449/PTO	RMATION DISCLOSURE  Filing Date  May 5, 2004  First Named Inventor  Art Unit  Application Number 10/840,172  Heinz Willebrand et al.  Art Unit 2638			
	10101111111111111111111111111			Application Number	10/840,172
INFO	ORMATION	DIS	CLOSURE	Filing Date	May 5, 2004
STA	STATEMENT BY APPLICANT			First Named Inventor	Heinz Willebrand et al.
	(Use as many she	ate ae n	ocessary)	Art Unit	2638
				Examiner Name	Phan, Hanh
Sheet	3	of	5	Attorney Docket Number	81699 (7293)

		NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	BD	Cai, M., et al., "5-Gbit/s BER Performance on an All Fiber-Optic Add/Drop Device Based on a Taper Resonator-Taper Structure, "IEEE Photonics Technology Letters, Vol. 12, No. 9, pp.1177-9 (September 2000.)	
	BE	Cai, M., et al., "Observation of Critical Coupling in a Fiber Taper to a Silica-Microsphare Whispering-Gallery Mode System," Physical Review Letters, Vol. 85, No. 1, pp. 74-7 (July 3, 2000).	
	BF	Cai, M., et al., "Fiber-coupled microsphere laser," Optics Letters, Vol. 25, No. 19, pp. 1430-1432 (October 1, 2000).	
	ВG	Cai, M., et at., "Fiber-Optic Add-Drop Device Based on a Silica Microsphere-Whispering Gallery Mode System," IEEE Photonics Technology Letters, Vol. 11, No. 6, pp. 686-7 (June 1999).	
	вн	Coppin, P. and T.G. Hodgkinson, "Novel Optical Frequency Comb Synthesis Using Optical Feedback," Electronics Letters, Vol. 26, No. 1, pp. 28-30 (January 4, 1990).	
	ВІ	Kitayama, K., "Highly-Stabilized Millimeter-Wave Generation by Using Fiber-Optic Frequency-Tunable Comb Generator," Journal of Lightwave Technology, Vol. 15, No. 5, pp. 883-93 (May 1997).	
	BJ	Kitayama, K., "Highly-Stabilized, Tunable Millimeter-wave Generation by Using Fiber-optic Frequency Comb Generator," Microwave Photonics, pp. 13-16 (1996).	
	вк	Logan, Jr., R.T., "All-Optical Heterodyne RF Signal Generation Using a Mode-Locked-Laser Frequency Comb: Theory and Experiments," IEEE International Microwave Symposium Digest, Paper #TH4C-2, 4 pages (June 15, 2000).	
	BL	Maleki, L., "Technical Support Package on Whispering-Gallery-Mode Microspheres as Light Modulators," Nasa Tech Brief, Vol. 24, No. 11, 10 pages (November 2000).	
	вм	Novak, D., "Signal Generation Using Pulsed Semiconductor Lasers for Application in Millimeter-Wave Wireless Links," IEEE Transactions on Microwave Theory and Techniques, Vol. 43, No. 9, Part 2, pp. 2257-2262 (September 1995).	

Examiner	Date	, in the second
Signature	Considered	

<sup>\*\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitut	te for form 1449/PTO				Complete if Known
Cubstitut	10 10 10 111 1445/1 10			Application Number	10/840,172
INFO	ORMATION	I DIS	CLOSURE	Filing Date	May 5, 2004
STA	TEMENT E	BY A	PPLICANT	First Named Inventor	Heinz Willebrand et al.
	(Use as many she	oote se n	acaecand	Art Unit	2638
	(USB as many sm	eets as n	ecessary)	Examiner Name	Phan, Hanh
Sheet	4	of	5	Attorney Docket Number	81699 (7293)

		NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T²
	BN	Otheru, S. and Noboru Takachio, "Methodology of Unequally Spaced Frequency Allocation for WDM Transmission Systems Using Typical Dispersion Shifted Fiver Cable," IEICE Trans. Commun., Vol. E83-B, No. 6, pp. 1290-7 (June 2000).	
	во	JDS Uniphase, Product Information for FBG1500-ADM Series - Fiber Bragg Circulated Fixed Add/Drop Modules and WDI515 A1/D1-100GHz Spaced ITU Channel Add/Drop WDM Couplers, 2 pages, http://www.jdsunph.com/HTML/catalog/prod.	
	BP	Giganet Corp., Product Information for EtherAir 1500TM - 2x100Base-TX over OC-3/STM-1, 6 pages http://www.giganet-corp.com/1500100/html.	
	BQ	Sicom Incorporated, Product Information for DVB Satellite Modulator Products, 1 page, http://www.sicom.com/sicom/products/html.	
	BR	Sicom Incorporated, Product Information for SM7060 Programmable Digital Modulator ASIC and MC2470 Modulator Circuit Card, 6 pages.	
	BS	Gould Fiber Optics, Product Information for Wavelength Division Multiplexers, 5 pages.	
	вт	Ceragon Networks, Product Information for FiveAir 3100 and FibeAir 6200, 4 pages.	
	BU	ISC IASERsPEED Solutions, Product Information for SkyNetTM 500 Series -Quick Connectivity for 100 Mbps Fast Ethernet, 2 pages.	
	BV	Mohsen Kavehrad, A Coutermeasure to Improve Outage Performance of Interference-Limited Microwave Radio Links; January 1991, Canadian Electrical & Computer Engineering Journal, Vol. 16, No. 1, pp 13-18.	-
	вw	Clark, Gerald et al., "Hybrid free space optical/microwave communication networks: a unique solution for ultra high speed local loop connectivity", LightPointe Communications, Inc., pp 46-54, November 2000.	

Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMR control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO				Complete if Known		
Cabatital				Application Number	10/840,172	
INFO	ORMATION	I DIS	CLOSURE	Filing Date	May 5, 2004	
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT			PPLICANT	First Named Inventor	Heinz Willebrand et al.	
	(lien as many sh	oote se n	ococcand	Art Unit	2638	
(Use as many sheets as necessary)				Examiner Name	Phan, Hanh	
Sheet	5	of	5	Attorney Docket Number	81699 (7293)	

		NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	вх	LIGHTPOINTE COMMUNICATIONS INC., "LMDS Versus Free Space Optical Networks", www.lightpointe.com, Doc. No. 610-006514-H0001, February 21, 2001, pages I-III and 1-15 (18 pages).	
	BY	R.A. MULLEN et al., "Wireless Optics Protection of Fiber via SONET Ring Closure", www.lightpointe.com, pp 1-10.	
	BZ	CHINESE PATENT OFFICE, "The First Office Action", dated September 17, 2004, for corresponding application no. 00819317.7, with a copy of pending claims, 17 pages.	V
	CA	AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE, "Examiner's Report No. 2 on patent application no. 2001252868", dated February 25, 2005, for corresponding application no. 2001252868, with copy of pending claims, 10 pages.	
	СВ	EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE, "European Search Report", dated November 4, 2004, for EP application no. 03019647.1-2415, with copy of searched claims, 5 pages.	
	CD	INDIAN PATENT OFFICE, "First Examination Report", dated June 27, 2005, for corresponding IN application no. IN/PCT/2002/01247/CHE, 2 pages.	
	CE	CHINESE PATENT OFFICE, "Notice on Grant of Patent Right for Invention", dated July 22, 2005, for corresponding application no. 00819317.7, 4 pages.	~

Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not

considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.